

**Senate File 302 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 302

BY DRISCOLL

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to student chronic absenteeism in open  
2 enrollment and including applicability provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 282.18, Code 2023, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 11A. a. If a pupil participating in open  
4 enrollment under this section exhibits chronic absenteeism in  
5 the receiving school district, the receiving school district  
6 may, following written notice to the pupil's parent or guardian  
7 and an attempt to remedy the chronic absences through agreement  
8 with the parent or guardian, revoke the pupil's open enrollment  
9 in the school district and direct the pupil to enroll in the  
10 school district of residence. In order to minimize additional  
11 disruption to the pupil's academic progress, a revocation shall  
12 occur as close as possible to the conclusion of a semester or  
13 other applicable grading period. If a pupil's open enrollment  
14 is revoked under this subsection and the pupil enrolls in the  
15 district of residence for the remainder of the school year, the  
16 receiving district shall pay to the district of residence the  
17 prorated amount of the amount paid to the receiving district  
18 under subsection 5 or 6 that corresponds to the remaining  
19 portion of the school year.

20 b. For purposes of this subsection, "*chronic absenteeism*"  
21 means missing all or a portion of at least ten percent of  
22 school days for two or more consecutive grading periods, each  
23 grading period consisting of not less than nine weeks.

24 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school years  
25 beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

26 EXPLANATION

27 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
28 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

29 This bill amends Code section 282.18 relating to student  
30 open enrollment. Under the bill, if a pupil participating in  
31 open enrollment exhibits chronic absenteeism in the receiving  
32 school district, the receiving school district may, following  
33 written notice to the pupil's parent or guardian and an attempt  
34 to remedy the chronic absences through agreement with the  
35 parent or guardian, revoke the pupil's open enrollment in the

1 school district and direct the pupil to enroll in the school  
2 district of residence. The bill defines "chronic absenteeism"  
3 to mean missing all or a portion of at least 10 percent of  
4 school days for two or more consecutive grading periods, each  
5 grading period consisting of not less than nine weeks.

6 Code section 282.18(13) provides that the director of the  
7 department of education shall recommend rules to the state  
8 board of education for the orderly implementation of the open  
9 enrollment law and requires the state board to adopt rules as  
10 needed for the implementation of the open enrollment law.